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Appl. No. 09/612,976
Amdt. dated November 23, 2004
Reply to Office action of August 24, 2004

Remarks:

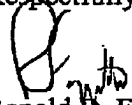
The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the interview by telephone on August 19, 2004 during which the Applicant elected the claims identified as belonging to group 1 (claims 1-19, 39) with traverse.

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application. Claims 20-39 have been cancelled by way of this amendment, without prejudice to introducing claims 20-39 in a divisional application.

The Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's indication that claims 1-19 are allowed.

In view of the foregoing, early favorable consideration of the application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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November 23, 2004
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Date: November 23, 2004
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The following documents are enclosed:

1. Transmittal letter
2. Response to Office Action dated August 24, 2004

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